## State of South Carolina Executive Department



NOV 2 2 2016

Mark Hammond SECRETARY OF STATE



## Office of the Covernor

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.** 

2016-47

WHEREAS, on November 8, 2016, a severe wildfire began in the Pinnacle Mountain area of Pickens County, which has since spread to Greenville County and grown in size to span approximately 6,000 acres; and

WHEREAS, due to unfavorable weather conditions, including high winds and low humidity, the increase in strength and size of the wildfire has resulted in the loss of property and natural resources in the State of South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, local evacuations have occurred and may continue to occur as the wildfire continues to threaten the lives, health, safety, and welfare of citizens in Pickens and Greenville Counties; and

WHEREAS, it has been presented to me that the wildfire will require additional assistance beyond the scope of local or state agencies for firefighting, evacuations, logistics, and other emergency measures, and it is my intention to provide local and state officials with all the support necessary to abate and ultimately extinguish the wildfire.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me as Governor pursuant to the Constitution and Laws of the State of South Carolina, I hereby declare that a State of Emergency exists in Greenville and Pickens Counties due to the ongoing wildfire. I hereby direct that the South Carolina Emergency Operations Plan be placed into effect in order to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of South Carolina and direct that all prudent preparations be taken at the individual, local, and state levels in response to the wildfire.

FURTHER, I hereby place specified units and/or personnel of the South Carolina National Guard and/or State Guard, as necessary, on State Active Duty pursuant to my

authority under Section 25-1-1840 of the South Carolina Code of Laws and hereby direct the Adjutant General to issue supplemental orders to this effect. I further order the utilization of the South Carolina National Guard's personnel with appropriate equipment, at the discretion of the Adjutant General and in coordination with the Director of the South Carolina Emergency Management Division, to take necessary and prudent actions to assist the citizens of this state.

Further proclamations and regulations deemed necessary to insure the fullest protection of life and property during this state of emergency shall be issued orally by me and thereafter reduced to writing within the succeeding 24-hour period.

Pursuant to Section 25-1-440(a)(2), this Order shall take effect immediately and shall last through midnight on December 7, 2016.

VIKKI R. HALEY

OF NOYEMBER, 2016.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, THIS 22<sup>nd</sup> DAY

Governor

ATTEST:

Secretary of State